



## VILLAGE OF BOYS TOWN

### *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, suicide is a significant concern facing our country's youth and is having a profound impact on individuals, families, and communities across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health is just as important as physical health, untreated mental health problems lead to a less healthy society and increased rates of suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, the mental health crisis our youth are enduring is exacerbated by things like social media and the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that no one person is immune from suicide and that suicide has a detrimental impact on everyone, regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and

**WHEREAS**, in the United States, one person dies by suicide every 11 minutes, resulting in more than 48,000 suicides each year; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is currently the twelfth leading cause of death in the United States, and the third leading cause of death for ages 10-19; and, the second leading cause of death for ages 20-34; and

**WHEREAS**, many people with mental health issues often may feel they have nowhere to turn and nobody to talk to; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to ensure that everyone knows that they are not alone, that help exists, and that there are mental health supports available to heal, recover, and thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, Boys Town offers an accessible and comprehensive system of mental health care for children, promoting mental health awareness, prevention, and treatment from Boys Town Hospital pediatricians; child and adolescent psychiatrists; psychologists and therapists; and, the Boys Town National Hotline; Nebraska Family Helpline; 988 crisis line; and many other community-based services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED** by Nick Zadina, Manager of Hotline Training & Quality Assurance, of the Village of Boys Town, Nebraska, that September is

### **"SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH"**

In the Village of Boys Town, Nebraska, we support a holistic approach to wellbeing and self-care for our staff and for the children and families we serve. We recognize suicide is an issue that impacts an entire community and can be prevented if we support one another; seek help when needed; continue to promote mental health awareness and provide access to high quality mental health services. In the Village of Boys Town, NE, we recognize deaths by suicide are preventable. We all have a role to play in suicide prevention.

Duly adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2024.

Nick Zadina, Village of Boys Town